

## FR THOMAS P WOOD



B/W photograph (reproduction).

Dated: c. 1915

CDHC archive collection

Before becoming a priest, Fr Thomas was a school teacher and was also an inventor having patented: *an improved suspender or holdfast for hats, muffs, umbrellas, and other articles, specially applicable to seats, desks or other furniture*. By 1880, he was teaching at St Mary's Hotham (West Melbourne) and by 1888, he taught at St. Joseph's Collingwood. In the same year, he decided to enter the priesthood and travelled to Dublin to study at All Hallows College.

After graduating, he was promoted and sent to India in 1897 and was to spend many years *in self sacrificing work amongst the natives of Trinidad...*

He enlisted as a Chaplain during WWI but due to ill health Fr Wood returned to Australia where he was appointed at St Patrick's Cathedral in Ballarat and in 1921 to Ararat. Between 1922 and 1945, he was Parish Priest at Hopetoun and worked at Koroit, Inglewood and Horsham. Fr Thomas Wood, died on August 19, 1945 and is buried in Hopetoun. He was 73.